

June 27, 2014

Rear Admiral Daniel B. Abel Commander, 17<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District United States Coast Guard c/o Docket Management Facility (M-30) U.S. Department of Transportation West Building Ground Floor Room W12-140 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Re: USCG-2014-0414; Cook Inlet RCAC Recertification

Dear Admiral:

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce (Alaska Chamber) supports the recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (Cook Inlet RCAC).

Cook Inlet RCAC has been at the forefront of important initiatives to improve Cook Inlet's navigational safety and oil spill prevention and response capabilities, as well as advance our scientific understanding of the region's environment to better enable us to protect its wildlife and natural resources from the harmful effects of spills. Cook Inlet RCAC has achieved significant accomplishments in the areas of environmental monitoring, and oil spill prevention, response and preparedness, a result of a concerted effort to foster and develop a partnership with industry, local, state and federal governments and the citizens of Cook Inlet.

We value the organization's ability to represent and bring together a diverse group of stakeholders with a broad range of interests. Alaska Chamber members are among the many beneficiaries of the research and studies the Cook Inlet RCAC have done through their coastal habitats, biological and chemical monitoring, oil behavior, and physical oceanography programs. Ultimately, the proactive work of the Cook Inlet RCAC can ensure economic development opportunities are realized while our treasured environment is preserved and improved.

We look forward to continuing this positive relationship and respectfully request the Coast Guard approve Cook Inlet RCAC's application for recertification.

Sincerely,

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Rachael Petro President/CEO